2. Fertilizers

387 Since the consumption of chemical fertilizers in Rumania is one of the lowest among the European countries, their production is comparatively small.

Synthetic nitrogen compounds are manufactured by the S.A. Nitrogen at Dicio San Martin, where the company has a small Fauser synthetic ammonia plant and a calcium cyanamide works. No recent reliable data exists regarding output, but before the war the Fauser plant is stated to have treated 200 metric tons of nitrogen annually, and the production of cyanamide amounted to about 500 metric tons. The quantity of superphosphate manufactured averaged about 8,000 tons before the war. Owing to the cutting-off of supplies of rock phosphate, production of superphosphate is now probably nil. There was no domestic production of potash salts, and pre-war imports were very small.

3. Wood-Distillation Products

314 385 This industry is almost entirely controlled by Margina Resita destilarile de lemn unite S.A.R., Timisoara. Prior to the outbreak of the war about 170,000 tons of beech wood were worked per year. The following is a list of some of the products obtained, showing the average annual tonnage produced :—

Wood charcoal	31,000
Methanol	2,000
Calcium acetate	1,400
Acetic acid	50
Formaldehyde	130
Acetone and derivatives ..	1,100

4. Soap and Glycerine

388 389 Rumania is an important producer of sunflower, rape and pumpkin seeds, and has, therefore, an ample supply of oil for her soap industry. The production of soap amounts to 33,000 tons and is in the hands of several factories, the only one of which is of striking importance being Stella S.A. of Bucarest. Glycerine production, which is a by-product of the soap industry, amounted to 350 tons, most of which was utilised by the explosives industry. Since the war the quality of the soap has markedly deteriorated. Though the present ration of 250 grams per head per month is a fairly generous one, it is not fully met and distribution is very bad. The production of glycerine is estimated to have fallen to about 200 tons, while imports amounted to 160 tons in 1941 compared with an average of about 240 tons in 1936-1938.

5. Paints and Varnish

386 The paint and varnish industry, in which some 60 small firms are engaged, is sufficiently well developed to meet—under normal conditions—the greater part of Rumanian requirements in this particular sphere. The industry is, however, still dependent to some extent on imports of oil paints.

6. Pharmaceuticals

278 Production of pharmaceuticals is on a very small scale, being sufficient to meet only about one-third of requirements, the remainder being covered by imports, mainly from Germany.

7. Explosives

389 The explosives industry is quite inadequate to cover wartime requirements, and these have to be